

FRIENDS OF BENNIE THOMPSON

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Harry Bowie, Chair
Attorney Reuben Anderson, Treasurer

December 9, 1996

Post Office Box 100
Bolton, Mississippi 39041
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Ms. Laurianne Proctor
Reports Analyst
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20463-0001

RE: FEC #C00279851 - Friends of Bennie Thompson
October Quarterly Report (7/1/96-9/30/96)

Dear Ms. Proctor:

This letter is written in response to your correspondence dated November 22, 1996.

Schedule A (Contributions) - your review indicates that several contributions accepted by the Friends of Bennie Thompson political campaign committee exceeded the limit.

Response #1: Isaac Byrd made an in-kind contribution in the amount of \$475 on 3/28/96 and a monetary contribution in the amount of \$1,000 on 4/25/96. In reviewing our records we find that both of these contributions were applied to the 1996 General Election.

In that we were initiating a change from manual to computer generated reports during this time period, Mr. Byrd's excessive contribution was not noted. A check in the amount of \$475 has been issued to Mr. Byrd for in-kind services rendered.

Response #2: Retail, Wholesale & Department Store Union made a contribution in the amount of \$1,000.00 on 3/15/96 and the Committee on Political Education, AFL-CIO made a contribution of \$4,500 on 6/5/96. According to officials with the Retail, Wholesale & Department Store Union, these unions are affiliated; however, they maintain separate political action committees and each is eligible to make maximum contributions to political campaign committees.

Response #3: The International Longshoremen's Association made a contribution in the amount of \$3,000 on May 29, 1996 and \$2,500 on August 29, 1996 (date of deposit). A refund was issued on August 28, 1996 in the amount of \$500.00 and sent to the Local Union #1752, via overnight mail.